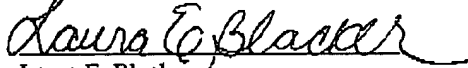


## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/027,195 Confirmation No. 9651  
Applicant : Daniel Tunkelang  
Filed : December 20, 2001  
TC/A.U. : 2177  
Examiner : Le, Miranda  
  
Docket No. : 109878-125  
Customer No. : 23483

## CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office to Examiner Miranda Le, Art Unit 2177, Facsimile No. 703 746-8683 on January 30, 2004.

  
Laura E. Blacker

Examiner Miranda Le  
Art Unit 2177  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Via Facsimile (703) 746-8683

PROPOSED AGENDA FOR INTERVIEW  
Not for Official Filing

Applicant has requested an interview with the Examiner to discuss the Office Action issued on September 25, 2003. Due to the complexity and subtlety of the subject matter at issue, Applicant believes that an interactive discussion will be helpful to moving the case forward. The interview has not yet been scheduled but the Examiner has agreed to contact the Applicant's attorney with a proposed time after checking her schedule, as well as the Primary Examiner's schedule. Applicant is prepared to conduct a telephone interview or an in-person interview, at the Examiner's option.

At the Examiner's request, Applicant is submitting this proposed agenda to outline the topics to be discussed at the interview. Applicant is not submitting a proposed amendment

Application No. 10/027,195  
Proposed Agenda for Interview – Not for Official Filing

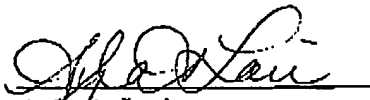
because Applicant is seeking clarification of the rejection stated in the Office Action and an opportunity to discuss the prior art which is not believed to teach or suggest the presently claimed invention. Focusing on claim 1, Applicant would like to discuss the following points:

- Which elements in Wical specifically are believed by the Examiner to correspond to the claimed "items," "properties," and "distance function." This correspondence is not specified in the Office Action and it is ambiguous because Wical refers to many interrelated abstract concepts in the cited portions, such as "terms," "query terms," "groupings of terms," "topics," "themes," "theme sets," "category," "subcategory," "associations" and "documents." Applicant seeks to confirm that the rejection is being interpreted correctly.
- Where Wical describes "the distance function determines a distance between the query and an item in the collection based on the number of items in the collection that are associated with all of the properties in the intersection of the first set of properties and the set of properties for the item," as set forth on page 5 of the Office Action. Applicant has reviewed the cited portions of the Wical specification but does not believe that it discusses determining "a distance between the query and an item in the collection" as claimed.
- The number of documents having a common set of properties is not believed to be used as a distance measure between documents in Wical at all, let alone as described and claimed in the present application.
- To the extent the rejection stated in the Office Action relies on treating "properties" and "items" as being interchangeable, Applicant wishes to explain why this is not correct.

Applicant is appreciative of the Examiner's efforts to make herself available for the interview.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: Jan. 30, 2004

  
Ayla A. Lari  
Registration No. 43,739  
Attorney for Applicant

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Boston, Massachusetts 02109  
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JAN 30 2004

OFFICIAL

Re: U.S. Patent Application No. 10/027,195 filed 12/20/2001  
Title: Method and System for Similarity Search and Clustering

First Inventor: Tunkelang

Examiner: Miranda Le

Group Art Unit: 2177

Attorney Docket No.: 109878-125

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each submitted paper.

## Document

No.  
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Transmittal Form	1
Proposed Agenda for Interview	2
Applicant Initiated Interview Request Form	1

Total Number of Pages (including this Certificate of Transmission)

5

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PTO/SB/21 (08-03)

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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/027,195	
	Filing Date	12/20/2001	
	First Named Inventor	Tunkelang	
	Art Unit	2177	
	Examiner Name	Miranda Le	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	5	Attorney Docket Number	109878-125

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): -Proposed Agenda for Interview -Interview Request Form
Remarks		

## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	Ayla A. Lari
Signature	<i>Ayla A. Lari</i>
Date	01/30/2004

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Typed or printed name	Laura E. Blacker
Signature	<i>Laura E. Blacker</i>
Date	01/30/2004

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

**Applicant Initiated Interview Request Form**

Application No. 10/027,195 First Named Applicant Tunkelang  
 Examiner Miranda Lee Art Unit 2177 Status of Application: 1st Office Action

**Tentative Participants**

(1) Ayla Lari, Attorney for Applicant (2) Daniel Tunkelang, Inventor

(3)

(4)

Proposed Date of Interview: Examiner to Propose Proposed Time: (AM/PM)

**Type of Interview Requested**

(1) ☒ Telephonic OR (2) ☒ Personal (3) ☐ Video Conference

Exhibit To Be Shown or Demonstrated: ☐ YES ☒ NO

If yes, provide brief description:

**Issues To Be Discussed**

Issues (Rej., Obj., etc)	Claims/ Fig. #s	Prior Art	Discussed	Agreed	Not Agreed
(1) See Attached			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(2)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(3)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(4)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

☐ Continuation Sheet Attached

Brief Description of Arguments to be Presented:  
See Attached

An interview was conducted on the above identified application on

**NOTE:**

This form should be completed by applicant and submitted to the examiner in advance of the interview (see MPEP § 713.01).

This application will not be delayed from issue because of applicant's failure to submit a written record of this interview. Therefore, applicant is advised to file a statement of the substance of this interview (37 CFR 1.133(b)) as soon as possible.

(Applicant/Applicant's Representative Signature) (Examiner/SPE Signature)

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.133. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO in process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 21 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS